MINES
Other than those mentioned above, no specific locations identified.

PEOPLE OF INFLUENCE
Insufficient information.

MEDICAL RESOURCES
None reported.

OTHER NGO ACTIVITIES
None reported

GAYAN

Gayan is an alaqadari with an area of 280 sq km located in northeastern Paktika province. To the north is Sperah woleswali (Ghazni), Urgun in the west, Barmal in the south, and in the east is the North Waziristan tribal agency of Pakistan. Gayan is very mountainous and the population is mainly concentrated in a single valley that runs from north to south through which flows one of the tributaries of the Tochi River. The district levels out slightly to the east as it enters Pakistan. Because of its isolation, the population of Gayan has not been greatly effected by the war.

POPULATION & DISPLACEMENT

The Gayankhel sub-tribe of the Pushtun Jadrans inhabits this area exclusively. The population of Gayan was estimated at 20,000 in 1979. There are no refugees from this alaqadari known to be living in the Pakistan camps.

ECONOMY

The cultivation of wheat, maize and barley is restricted to terraces carved out of the hillsides flanking the central valley. As in Barmal and Dila, agriculture is a supplement to the main economic activity of the population, sheep and goat herding.

BAZAARS

No significant commercial activity has been reported. Some of the shops in the small bazaar at Gayan have been destroyed during the war.

STORAGE

No adequate storage facility reported.

ROADS

There is a dirt track linking Gayan village with Urgun. It is in poor condition and only fit for four-wheel drive vehicles.

MINES

Insufficient information.

PEOPLE OF INFLUENCE

The leader of the Gayankhel sub-tribe is Mowlawi Bokhta Jan. He was a mowlawi before the war and studied in both Afghanistan and Pakistan at Zormat and Akora Khattak. Jallaludin Haqanni (HIK), a member of the main Jadran tribe, has considerable influence among the Gyankhel.

MEDICAL RESOURCES
None reported.

OTHER NGO ACTIVITIES
None reported. SCA and VITA have reportedly conducted surveys in Gayan.

GOMAL

Gomal is a woleswali in east central Paktika comprising an area of 4,072 sq km. It is the largest woleswali in the province. To the west is Katawaz and Omna, with Wazakhwa to the south west, in the north are Sar Rawza, Sarobi and Barmal and in the east, the South Waziristan tribal agency of Pakistan. For the most part, Gomal is sparsely populated dasht. On the high mountains to the east, there is some timber, but most of the lower slopes are bare. The nomads and shepherds mainly frequent the mountain slopes where they can find grazing for their flocks.

POPULATION & DISPLACEMENT

The mountains dividing Gomal and Katawaz are controlled by the Saus Khel Pushtuns, a sub-tribe of the Kharoti. Gomal's population was estimated at under 5000 people, most of whom have migrated to refugee camps in Pakistan. The poor economic conditions of the area may have been more a factor in the population's migration than any war-related factors.

ECONOMY

Agriculture is limited to single cropping in Gomal and largely confined to land that is watered by seasonal rivers, such as in the areas of Gomal village and a few narrow river valleys. Some cultivation is dependent on karez irrigation. Wheat is the major crop. Herding is the predominant occupation of the population.

BAZAARS

There is a bazaar at Kharotadar along the road being constructed by NIFA.

STORAGE

No adequate storage facilities reported.

ROADS

- An important alternative route to central Afghanistan passes through Gomal. This route is used especially in the winter when the main route through Barmal and Urgun deteriorates due to winter snows. This route passes through the Gomal valley, then crosses the range of mountains to the west and traverses the dasht to Moqur. The surface of this dirt track is comparatively good but the route is unmarked. In the past, this route was often the scene of government ambushes on mujahideen supply caravans. Reportedly NIFA has been financing the improvement of this road.

- From Gomal, it is possible to travel to Wal Mamay, Wazakhwa and Katawaz via existing dirt tracks.

- The old route connecting Gomal with Katawaz markaz is in poor condition and suitable only for trucks and four-wheel drive vehicles.

MINES
Mines have been planted around the former government garrison at Gomal markaz.

PEOPLE OF INFLUENCE
Khalifa Nasim Kharoti, from Shawza village is the Amir for NIFA in the area. His influence extends from Urgun to Gomal.

MEDICAL RESOURCES
None reported.

OTHER NGO ACTIVITIES
- DACAAR is undertaking road repair in Gomal.
- NCA support crop improvement and karez cleaning projects.
- UNO is supporting four schools.

KATAWAZ

Katawaz is a woleswali in western Paktika that covers an area of 1300 sq km. To the north are Sharan and Omna, to the east Gomal, to the south Wazakhwa and Dila, and to the west Moqur in Ghazni. Katawaz is a broad, flat plain approximately 48 miles in length and having a width varying from 10km in the north to 20-30km at Khoshamund at its southern end. It is bounded to the east by the Kohnak mountains and in the west the hills of Zirla. In the north, the Katawaz plain reaches as far as Zormat, in Paktia Province, and in the south to the impressive Ab-i-Istada lake. There are three passes into the plain from the east and two from the west. The centre of the plain is agriculturally very productive, but where water is scarce, the land turns to arid scrubland and dasht.

The garrison town of Zarghun Shah is situated in the centre of this plain and the provincial capital, Sharan, at the northeastern end. This garrison was maintained by the government to control the transport routes through Katawaz until autumn 1988. During that time, the local population cooperated with the government and remained largely unaffected by the war until the 1988 mujahideen offensive. Zarghun Shah was extensively damaged during that offensive.

POPULATION & DISPLACEMENT

With an estimated 1979 population of 41,000 people, Katawaz is the most populous woleswali of Paktika Province. The people of this area are mostly Pushtun belonging to the Ghilzai tribe, with sub-tribes of the Wazir (the majority), Sulaimain Khel and Alikhel. Ghilzai nomads herd large flocks of goats and sheep on the sparse vegetation on the outer rim of the plain. Katawaz is also a primary route for Kuchi nomads travelling from Ghazni through Gomal and on to the Punjab. More than 14,000 people from Katawaz are estimated to be living as refugees in Pakistan. There has been little displacement from Zargun Shar itself.

For the people of Katawaz, as with the tribal Pushtuns living along both sides of the Durrand Line, family and tribe are the predominant loyalties and the make-up of the national government is of little interest or relevance.

ECONOMY

Agriculture and animal husbandry are the most important occupations in Katawaz. The staple and most widely produced crop is wheat (red for drier areas and white where water is plentiful). Farmers have no experience with improved seeds. Other crops include barley, maize, lucerne for fodder, vegetables (onions and tomatoes) and fruit (grapes and water melon). The area around Zarghun Shah is well populated because the soil and water supply is good.

Karez are an important source of irrigation in Katawaz but many have fallen into disrepair during the war. As an alternative, farmers have begun using diesel pumps to pump water from existing shallow wells. Some agricultural experts fear that mechanical pumping could lead to a depletion, or an uneven distribution, of ground water resources that have been traditionally regulated among karez users.

Oxen were used for ploughing before the war but the stock has largely been depleted. Farmers are now using/renting tractors - mainly Massey Fergusson 240s and a few Fiats. Current rental rates vary from Afs900 to 1,200 per hour. All farming households own sheep and cows, which they entrust to Ghilzai herders for pasturing. Herders are paid one seer of wheat plus Afs22 per animal each six months as compensation. During the war, herds have declined in number but they are still substantial.

There is a trucking company based in Mist village with 12 five-six tonne trucks that transport food and other commodities from Pakistan. Owners of the company also engage in a traditional Kuchi activity of moneylending with clients extending as far as the Indian Punjab.

BAZAARS

Zarghun and Janikhel bazaars were destroyed in the 1988 offensive but there is still significant commercial activity in Katawaz:

- Yahya Khel may be the biggest bazaar in the province. It serves the provincial capital Sharan as a trading centre and is the tractor servicing centre for the entire region. One third of the bazaar was destroyed in the offensive.
- Mushkel, a large bazaar whose surrounding population cooperated with the government, has been unaffected by the war. It is a major vehicle centre with extensive workshop facilities and supplies of diesel, oil etc.
- Mist has no visible signs of destruction. This bazaar specialises in selling and servicing motorbikes. Engine oil and kerosene are available.

STORAGE

- There is a large, partially destroyed, and deserted garrison at Zarghun Shah. One building reportedly has a capacity of 500 metric tonnes. Some repairs are needed.
- There are also many US made shipping containers in the area. These are apparently in good condition.

ROADS

Two major routes from Pakistan to Ghazni pass through Katawaz. All vehicles passing this way have to travel in armed convoys for security. Anyone travelling through Katawaz in a hired car (as can be hired at the

border towns of Angor Ada, Wana and Miramshah) either has to pay an expensive transit fee or hire a car in Katawaz instead. The two main routes are:

- Barmal, Sarobi, Urgun, Zama Khile, Sar Rawza, and Sharan to Katawaz and on to Ghazni. Parts of this road are in poor condition and often end up in river beds. Travel is particularly difficult during the winter on this route. At present, the direct route from Sharan to Katawaz has been closed at Mushkhel, in the south of Sharan woleswali, by Kasim Akhanzada (SYF). Vehicles now cross into Ghazni and go south until they can cross over to Yahya Khel. On occasions, Kasim Akhanzada has sent men to close this route as well. There are fuel shops along the road to Zarghun Shah. Fuel and oil is imported from Pakistan.

- The other route goes directly from Barmal, through Gomal and into Katawaz. This crosses the Gomal dasht and passes through a mountainous area where the road is badly rutted from extensive use during winter months.

- There are two other roads, one that connects Yahya Khel and Mushkhel, which is open at this writing. The other road connects Zarghun Shah with Sharan and is partially closed because of the suspicion that it has been mined.

MINES

Mines are found throughout the central part of the Katawaz plain; in the road along the Jilga river; and in the hills to the east of the Sharan-Zarghun Shar road, especially close to the village of Sehgana.

PEOPLE OF INFLUENCE

Khalid Farooqi, Amir of HIG for Paktika, and brother-in-law of Gulbadeen Hekmatyar, has his markaz in Katawaz.

MEDICAL RESOURCES

- SCA supports four Peshawar-trained health workers in this district.
- There are pharmacies in Mist and Mushkhel.

There is no functioning hospital in Katawaz. Serious medical cases must travel to Pakistan or to the ICRC clinic in Sar Rawza. These are long and difficult journeys.

OTHER NGO ACTIVITIES

- SCA have introduced a programme of irrigation repair and the supply of seed, fertilizer and agro-chemicals in this Katawaz. They have worked on karez in the Khoshamund area and surveyed further karez damage in Zargun Shah.
- UNO supports four schools in this district.

MATA KHAN (MATA KHEL)

Mata Khan is an alaqadari in the far northwest of Paktika with an area of some 430 sq km. To the south is Sar Rawza, in the east, Orma, in the north Zormat and in the west Sharan, and the Dehyak woleswali of Ghazni. Some villages in Mata Khan, especially those close to Ghazni, were destroyed during the war.

POPULATION & DISPLACEMENT

Mata Khan had an estimated 14,000 people living in 27 villages in 1979. Fewer than 1000 are thought to be living as refugees in Pakistan.

ECONOMY

Mata Khan lies to the west of a mountain range from which numerous karez find their source. These provide irrigation for wheat, maize and barley and some vegetables. In addition to agriculture, the population harvests timber and pine nuts (jalghoza) from the neighboring mountains.

BAZAARS

The shops in the Mata Khan markaz are now empty and partially destroyed.

STORAGE

The Mata Khan alaqadari office is intact.

ROADS

There is a dirt road to Mata Khan that links Zormat (Paktia) with Sharan, the provincial capital of Paktika. The total length of this road is 45km and it is in very poor condition and reportedly mined. Another track that is safe for travel runs parallel to this road

MINES

Mines have reportedly been planted around the markaz and in some of the nearby villages.

PEOPLE OF INFLUENCE

Mowlawi Farid (JIA), based in Sharan, has influence in Mata Khel.

MEDICAL RESOURCES

IMC operates a clinic at Mata Khan staffed by a doctor, an LHV and two dispensers.

OTHER NGO ACTIVITIES

GAF supports an agricultural programme in Mata Khan with UNHCR funding.

NEKA

Neka is an alaqadari in northern Paktika with an area of 180 sq km. To the west is Sar Rawza and Orma, in the north Jadran (Paktia), in the southeast Zeluk and in the south Urgun. The majority of the population is settled in the small plain that is surrounded by mountains. Any destruction in this area is mainly due to the migration of the people and the subsequent neglect of their property. This is an area which in winter receives heavy snow and unless the buildings are continually maintained they rapidly fall into disrepair. Limited damage has been caused by aerial bombing.

POPULATION & DISPLACEMENT

In 1979, Neka was estimated to have 7000 people living in 20 villages, some of which are still inhabited by as much as 90% of their former population. There are fewer than 600 people from Neka living as refugees in Pakistan. The inhabitants of the area are Pushtun Jadrans, mainly the Mirzai sub-tribe. When the government took the nearby centre of Urgun, many people left Neka.

ECONOMY

On the plain, a single crop of wheat, corn, and alfalfa are grown. The land is irrigated through the daming of small creeks and channels, and by springs. Animal husbandry is an important occupation as the potential for agriculture is so small. The inhabitants keep cows, goats and camels (the latter for use in transport for the timber trade). Before the war there was a thriving timber and pine-nut trade, but much of the area has been deforested.

BAZAARS

There is a very small bazaar in Neka with some 15 shops.

STORAGE

No adequate storage facility reported

ROADS

- The road linking Urgun with Zeluk via Neka is in poor condition and subject to wash outs in the winter and spring floods.

- A new road has been opened from Urgun through the south of Zeluk woleswali to Neka. There are no mines along this route but, as it passes through a number of river beds, it is only suitable for four-wheel drive vehicles.

BACKGROUND & SUMMARY

Paktika Province was created during the Daoud regime from the southeastern districts of both Paktia and Ghazni provinces. As a result, the exact boundaries of the provinces are sometimes unclear and often disputed depending on the source of information. The government census of 1979 enumerated 15 districts/sub-districts within the boundaries of Paktika covering an area of 19,000 sq km that is bordered on the north by Zormat, Orma, Jadran and Sperah woleswalis of Paktia Province; in the east by Ghazni and Zabul; and on the west and south by the Waziristan tribal agencies of Pakistan. A number of important mujahideen supply routes to central Afghanistan pass through Paktika, and this traffic has turned towns such as Urgun, Yahya Khel and Mushkhel into thriving commercial centres and staging posts.

The topography of Paktika is one of marked contrasts. In the north and east of the province, there are high, forested mountains with long, deep valleys. To the west the land becomes wide, open dasht with another mountain range marking the western limit. There are two major centres of population: the Katawaz plain (Katawaz and Sharan) in the west of the province; and the Barmal, Urgun and Gayan area in the northeast.

War-related destruction has been relatively concentrated in Paktika, limited largely to the north and northwest of the province where the bulk of the population is settled. Typically, in those districts where a government garrison had been established, the local population surrounding the garrison cooperated with the government. In contrast, the population in areas where the resistance was strong suffered considerably from government shelling and aerial bombardment. In the north, apart from the garrison town of Zargun Shar and surrounding villages that have been badly damaged as a result of mujahideen offensives, the villages of the Katawaz plain are still intact and populated. Similarly, the areas around Urgun markaz in the northeast have suffered considerable damage. Destruction in the south has not been severe largely because of the vastness of the terrain and the wide dispersal of population settlements. Large areas have been untouched by the fighting and the population has remained aloof of the political and ideological struggles being waged by the government and the mujahideen.

A dirt track suitable for heavy transport links the Paktika border town of Angur Ada in Barmal woleswali with Wana garrison in South Waziristan and routes to both Peshawar and Quetta. From the Angur Ada pass, there are two main routes through the province: to the northwest through Sarobi, Urgun, Sar Rawza, Sharan and onto Ghazni, Gardez and Logar; or westwards across the Gomal plain and through Katawaz to Dila and onto Ghazni. The routes westwards across the dasht are in better condition and easier to negotiate than the northern route, especially in winter, but they have been more vulnerable to aerial attack.

- There is a road linking Neka with Mata Khan but its condition is unknown.

MINES
There are conflicting reports about the presence of mines along the Urgun-Zeluk road. No other locations have been reported.

PEOPLE OF INFLUENCE
Haji Amanullah Khan (HIK), the former malik of the Mirzai, is currently a commander here for Jallaludin Haqanni in Mata Khan. Mowlawi Arsala (SYF) is also influential in Mata Khan..

MEDICAL RESOURCES
None reported.

OTHER NGO ACTIVITIES
None reported.

SAR RAWZA

Sar Rawza ("red earth") is an alaqadari in north central Paktika comprising an area of 725 sq km. To the west is Sharan and Omna, in the north, Orma (Paktia), in the east, Neka and Urgun and in the south Sarobi and Gomal. Sar Rawza is one of the principal villages in Paktika. It is located at the southern end of the Sar Rawza Ghar mountain range on the route between Pakistan, Urgun, Sharan and the interior of Afghanistan. It was taken by the government at the beginning of the war and has never been bombed. The areas is comparatively rich and the population is primarily involved in the transport trade between Karachi, Peshawar and Kabul. The business interests of the Sar Rawza's inhabitants may account for their ability to maintain a balance between both sides during the war.

POPULATION & DISPLACEMENT

Sar Rawza is inhabited by the Pushtun Kharoti. In 1979, the population was estimated at 13,000 people living in 14 villages. Only a small portion of the population is reported to have left the area, and none have been accounted for in the refugee camp surveys of DCAR.

ECONOMY

The land in the immediate vicinity of the Sar Rawza markaz is cultivated with wheat, potatoes, barley, fruit, cherries and grapes. Because the amount of land available for cultivation is small, the population has relied on the export of timber and pine nuts (jalghoza) and migrant labor in Pakistan. Those who farmed land would likewise migrate to Pakistan in search of work during the winter months. A small percentage of people from Sar Rawza worked for the central government.

BAZAARS

Only a small number of shops are open in the bazaar at Sar Rawza markaz.

STORAGE

No adequate storage facilities reported.

ROADS

- Sar Rawza is on the main route connecting Urgun with the Ghazni-Gardez highway. This route is about 35km long and was originally built by the government before the war. It is unpaved and 10km of the road between Sar Rawza and Urgun has been closed because of anti-tank mines. The route by way of Zama Khole is used instead. This route is described in more detail in the reports on Barmal, Sarobi and Urgun.

- From Sar Rawza, the main road continues to Sharan, the capital of the province. Four kilometres of this route is now closed due to mines but there is an alternative route turning west that leads to Muskhel via Sultani. The section of this road that crosses the mountains is difficult, especially during the winter. It is passable for trucks, land cruisers and pick- ups. On the plain, there is little difficulty with the road.

- Another road links Sar Rawza to Gomal. This is 65km in length and unpaved. It has deteriorated greatly during the war and needs maintenance.

MINES

Aside from those sites mentioned above, no specific locations have been reported.

PEOPLE OF INFLUENCE

- Mowlawi Farid (JIA), based in Sharan, is said to have preeminent influence in Sar Rawza.
- Mowlawi Toti Mhd. Fateh s/o Ma'azullah, of the Shatori sub-tribe of Kharoti, Shatori village, is the Amir-i-Omumi for HIM in the area.
- Jagran Abdul Majid, Kharoti, is the Amir-i-Omumi (SYF) of Paktika. He is about 40 years old and has been a commander for seven years. Before the war, he was a military officer (Jagran)
- Eng. Zinudin s/o Tazir Khan is from Sar Rawza village. He is the local representative for Eng. Ahmad Munib in Peshawar. Former followers of Sayyaf, they have broken away to follow the teachings of Mowlawi Faizani (executed by Daoud in 1975), the leader of an independent Islamic sect derived from Wahabism.

MEDICAL RESOURCES

- Jamat-i-Islami, Pakistan has established a clinic in Sar Rawza markaz with Arab support. It is reportedly run by a French doctor who has converted to Islam.
- There is one Peshawar-trained health worker in this alaqadari.

OTHER NGO ACTIVITIES

None reported.

SAROBI

Sarobi is an alaqadari in central Paktika comprising an area of 400 sq km. To the west and south is Gomal, in the north, Sar Rawza and Urgun, and in the east, Barmal. Sarobi is located in the same valley as Urgun markaz, which runs on a southwest-northeast axis. The southern end of this valley broadens out into the Gomal dasht, and in the north it gradually reduces in width to become a narrow strip reaching into Paktia. Most of the villages of the alaqadari are located in this valley. Like Urgun, hills spotted with pine trees rise to the east and the west. These hills are interspersed with barren areas.

The northern parts of Sarobi where, previously, the land was reasonably cultivable, have not been worked for the last eight years. The agriculture in the valleys of Nurullah and Abas Khel has suffered the effects of the war particularly because of their location close to the government post of Urgun. The villages in these valleys have been partially destroyed.

POPULATION & DISPLACEMENT

The estimated population of Sarobi in 1979 was 7000 people living in some 21 villages. The entire population of Sarobi are Pushtun Kharotis who are also found in south Barmal, Gomal, Omna, Sar Rawza and south west of Urgun. Sarobi is populated with the sub-tribes of Alizai, Babu Khel and Shatori. Nurullah and Abas Khel villages are depopulated, and the majority of the inhabitants are reported to have settled in Pakistan. However, the DCAR survey accounts for only a very small number of people from Sarobi as refugees in Pakistan. Ezai and Babu Khel villages, south of Sarobi, were reported to have been depopulated and internally displaced but about a quarter of the population has returned within the last year.

ECONOMY

The principal economy of this area is agriculture and animal husbandry but there is also some trading in pine nuts and timber. The main crops grown in the area are wheat, maize, barley, potatoes, fodder, clover, and some vegetables and fruit (apricot and mulberry). Walnut is also grown but to a limited extent. Both lalmi and irrigated land is limited and agricultural production is generally poor due both to a shortage of water and the cold climate. Water for irrigation is usually taken from karez and creeks but over half of all known karez are reported to be not functioning due to damage and lack of maintenance.

BAZAARS

There are 15 shops operating in Sarobi bazaar and diesel fuel is available for purchase at a local godown.

STORAGE
There is a stone building with a concrete roof in Sarobi markaz. It belonged to the agricultural cooperative project before the war. Now it is used as a tea house, and for the storage of diesel barrels. It could be used for storage of food and relief goods. It has six rooms with a total capacity of 168 cubic metres.

ROADS
There are two dirt tracks connecting Sarobi to Barmal: one via the Rabat Khwar and the other via Khangle. There are also routes connecting Sarobi with Urgun, Zama Khole and Sar Rawza that are in good condition and free of mines.

MINES
Mines are not considered a risk on the road from Sarobi up to Nurullah and Shekham villages. But there are conflicting reports concerning mines on the road when it turns to the west in Shekham village and extends into the dasht. Anti-tank and anti-personnel mines are found around Nurullah village and Abas Khel village. There is a destroyed fort near the alaqadari markaz that was occupied by Soviet forces. This is thought to be surrounded with anti-personnel mines. Reportedly, a team of Afghans trained in Pakistan are working with Mowlawi Arsala to clear these mines.

PEOPLE OF INFLUENCE
- Mowlawi Arsala (SYF), from the Kharoti tribe. He also participated in the Rawalpindi shura. Influential in Sarobi, Urgun and neighouring districts.
- Mowlawi Abdul Rahim (JIA), attended the consultative shura of the mujahideen in Rawalpindi. He is an elder of the Babu Khel sub-tribe of Kharotis.
- Malik Agha Mohd. (NIFA), a commander and leader of the Kharoti tribe in the east of Sarobi. He controls the road to Barmal and has frequent conflicts with the Wazir tribe.

MEDICAL RESOURCES
- There are conflicting reports about the existance of a "Jihad clinic", sponsored by an Egyptian Health aid agency located in Mangaroot village. It is said to be staffed by one doctor's assistant and a nurse.
- There is a clinic in Zama area supported by an Arab group and supervised by Mowlawi Arsala.

OTHER NGO ACTIVITIES
- SCA supports seven schools belonging to HIG.
- VITA is reported to be supporting karez repair in Sarobi.

SHARAN

Sharan is a woleswali situated in northwestern Paktika and comprises an area of 580 sq km. Sharan markaz is the administrative capital of Paktika Province. To the north of Sharan is Deh Yak (Ghazni), in the west Andar (Ghazni), in the south is Katawaz and in the east, Sar Rawza and Omna. Because it was under government control for much of the war, Sharan has not suffered much destruction. Sharan has been under the control of the mujahideen since late 1988.

POPULATION & DISPLACEMENT

In 1979, the population of Sharan was estimated at 36,000 people living in Sharan markaz (1400) and at least 100 villages. Sharan is the second most populous woleswali in the province after Katawaz. Eleven thousand people from Sharan are thought to be living as refugees in Pakistan.

ECONOMY

The main economic activities in the area are agriculture and commerce. Karez are used to irrigate agricultural land for the cultivation of wheat, barley and corn. Cultivation patterns have been little affected by the war.

BAZAARS

Sharan bazaar is reported to have had 240 shops, all of which were destroyed following the Soviet withdrawal.

STORAGE

No adequate storage facilities have been reported.

ROADS

The old road connecting Sharan to Urgun has been closed because of mines but an alternative route built by the mujahideen is suitable for trucks and four-wheel drive vehicles. The route to Sharan from Pakistan is subject to occasional closing by Kasim Akhanzada (SYF) (see Katawaz). Parts of the road from Sharan to Zarghun Shar are closed because of mines.

MINES

Mines are reported to have been planted around the markaz.

PEOPLE OF INFLUENCE

The mujahideen established a council to carry out an operation against Sharan. This is reportedly still operating in the area. Mowlawi Farid

(JIA), an influential commander throughout much of Paktika, has his base at Sharan.

MEDICAL RESOURCES
NCA supports one AVICEN-trained vaccinator in Sharan.

OTHER NGO ACTIVITIES
- DACAAR is supporting road rehabilitation in Sharan.
- NCA is supporting reconstruction projects.

URGUN

Urgun is the Loye Woleswali for Paktika province. Situated in the north central part of the province, it covers an area of some 570 sq km. Urgun is bounded to the west by Sar Rawza , to the north by Zeluk, to the east by Sperah (Paktia) and Gayan and in the south by Barmal and Sarobi. Urgun is a large valley surrounded by mountains running from north to south.

Although the valley of Urgun has good soil and a good seasonal water supply, cultivatable land is scarce. There are two rivers in this district, the first called Shinkai, coming from Sar Rawza in the north west, and the second Rud Zama which flows from the south. Agriculture and population are concentrated around these sources of irrigation. Otherwise, approximately 90 percent of Urgun is dasht or barren hills.

The villages of Urgun located to south of the markaz, like Mashkai, Shekhan and Abas Khel, have been heavily damaged during the war and the agricultural land is reported to be full of mines. None of the land is cultivated because of the fear of mines, in addition to the lack of manpower and irrigation. Urgun markaz has suffered only partial damage.

POPULATION & DISPLACEMENT

Most of the inhabitants of Urgun are Deghan (Tajik), particularly in the centre. The Kharoti tribe populates the areas to the south and west. The small Pushtun Pirkotai tribe is found in the area of the same name in the north east of Urgun. In 1979, the population of Urgun was estimated to be 32,000 people living in the markaz and 35 villages. DCAR surveys account for more than 40,000 inhabitants of Urgun living in refugee camps in North and South Waziristan. Urgun and Loye Urgun (Urgun-e-Kalan) to the south are the main depopulated areas. Before the war, Kuchi nomads used to graze their flocks in the Shinkai area northwest of Urgun markaz. During the Soviet occupation they did not visit this area, but this year they have started to return.

ECONOMY

A limited water supply restricts cultivation to small pieces of land near the seasonal rivers. The principal crops are wheat, corn, barley, potatoes, fodder and vegetables. As it is a cold area, with snow in the winter, there is only one crop each year. Farmers are not familiar with improved seed varieties but fertilizer is sometimes brought from Pakistan at a cost of Afs 2,500 per bag. Karez and some streams are the main sources of irrigation. The latter have water during the spring but run dry in the summer. A large number of karez in the area are reported to have been mined making it impossible for the local population to clean them. The local economy other than agriculture includes sale of timber and pine nuts, transportation, employment with the government, animal husbandry and shopkeeping.

BAZAARS

There is a bazaar in the centre of Urgun district which consists of 192 shops built from burned brick and concrete. Fifteen of these have been destroyed. There is a large Sarai owned by Mir Afzal Khan Jadran with nine garages and one workshop. These shops are closed due to the lack of population in the region.

STORAGE

- There is a 1000 metric tonne capacity hanger in the south west corner of the town made from iron beams, columns and CGI sheets. The floor is concrete and in good condition. It would be a suitable godown for food and relief items if some repair work was completed. It only needs to have some steel sheets replaced.
- There is another brick and steel godown, in good condition, at the rural development project headquarters to the south of the town. This was built as part of a West German-sponsored project which included offices, family living quarters, a garage and a machinery repair workshop. The net volume of the godown is 240 cubic metres.
- Two NGOs -- ESAR and ISRA -- are building storage facilities at Urgun.

ROADS

The pre-war road system connected Urgun with Khost through Sperah. The present road situation in the district is this:

- There is a 23 km road connecting Sarobi and Urgun. Heavy trucks can easily travel this route, part of which follows the Zama Khwar into the dasht. Mines have been planted on both sides of the road. This route continues on from Urgun to Sarobi and is reportedly free of mines.
- The road between Urgun and Sar Rawza can be walked in a day. The road has been closed to motorized traffic for several years because of the presence of anti-tank mines.
- Another road links Urgun markaz with Shinkai. This route also passes through a khwar, but there is reportedly no danger from mines.
- There is a track through khwar and dasht south from Urgun through to Mangaroot village Sarobi. This route is negotiable by heavy trucks.

MINES

The problem of mines starts from Nurullah and Shekhano village between Sarobi and Urgun. The presence of mines becomes more common closer to former government positions.

- Alam Khan Qala post: located 500-600m to the west of Shekhan village. Several types of mines are planted around the fort.
- Anti-personnel mines and grenades have been planted around Zama Khwala Post, located north of Zama creek on the east slope of Zama mountain. Some anti-tank mines can still be found in areas where government tanks and vehicles used to move.

- A large government post one km north of Alam Khan Qala, where the 112th battalion of the Afghan army was situated is very dangerous. Various types of anti-personnel mines have been planted around the post in an average radius of 300m. The mine field is marked by wooden sticks.
- Various kinds of anti-personnel mines are also planted around the heli-pad located one km to the south west of Urgun town. This mine field is very big with an estimated radius of 500m.
- The western, southern and southeastern sectors of Urgun markaz have been sown with anti-personnel mines.
- There are many anti-personnel mines planted on the east and western slopes of the Peshai mountains where there were a number of government positions. These start from Ter Mera Khel and end at Ghwaishi Khwala.
- At the north of Urgun town, around Termera post and behind Hasht Rakh fort, where garrison No.25 was situated, anti-personnel mines are planted in the agricultural land and in the dasht.
- Anti-tank mines are planted along the road connecting Urgun to Sar Rawza. This road runs to the west of Urgun.
- The agricultural land and dasht around Tapa-e-Inqilab post, located west of Urgun, is sown with anti-personnel mines.

PEOPLE OF INFLUENCE

Prior to the evacuation of Urgun by government troops, there was a shura of commanders representing the different parties active in the region. This shura reportedly has not been reconvened since there is no organisation to deal with legal disputes and security. The strong tribal relations of the population have kept rivalries between commanders in check. All the commanders claim to be willing to work with NGOs but there seem to be some problems with how to make this work in practice. HIK is probably the strongest party in Urgun.

- Commander Matiullah (HIK), of the Jadrani sub-tribe Safir. One of the most powerful and influential commanders in the province. See Background & Summary for more details.
- Mowlawi Pahlawan, NIFA.
- Khanamir Sayyid, NIFA.
- Khalid Farooqi, Amir of HIG throughout Urgun. His markaz is located at Katawaz. See the Background & Summary.
- Mowlawi Arsala (SYF), from Barmal, is influential in Sarobi, Urgun and neighbouring districts. See the Background & Summary.
- Malik Agha Mohd. Kharoti, of the Abas Khel, is the head of the Kharoti tribe in Urgun.

MEDICAL RESOURCES

- SCA supports 16 Peshawar-trained health workers and two health centres in Urgun.
- Freedom Medicine supports a number of its own trained paramedics.

POPULATION

The population of Paktika province was estimated at more than 245,000 in 1979. The area is dominated by the semi-nomadic Pushtun Ghilzai tribes of Sulaiman Khel, Kharoti and Jadran (in the northern districts bordering Paktia), of which the former are the most powerful. There are Tajik Deghan settlements in Urgun, and groups of Pushtun Pirkotai and Wazir settled along the eastern border. Like the tribal populations on the Pakistan side of the Durrand Line, these Pushtuns are deeply traditional in their ways, adhering strictly to the tribal code of of Pushtunwali and firmly resisting outside interference in their affairs. A large number traditionally migrate with their flocks of sheep, goats and camels each winter to Pakistan and India, passing through Gomal, Tochi (North Waziristan) and Kurram. Others migrate only as far as Waziristan and Baluchistan (Zhob and Loralai) to graze their flocks in winter pastures. All nomadic movements have been confined by the war with a resultant decline in the quantity and quality of stock.

More than 77,000 people (31 percent of the provincial population) have settled as refugees in Pakistan, especially in the camps of D.I. Khan, Mianwali and North and South Waziristan. Still others remained in the province but moved into the mountains that form its western and eastern borders. Areas that suffered considerable depopulation during the war were Urgun, the areas around Sharan, Sar Rawza, Neka, Zeluk near the Gardez-Khost road, and parts of Sarobi. Neka received internal refugees from Sperah in Paktia. The largest number of refugees in Pakistan from Paktika Province originated in Urgun woleswali, followed by Katawaz, Sharan and Gomal.

ECONOMY

Some of the Paktika's best agricultural land is in the Katawaz plain, which includes Zarghun Shah and the provincial capital Sharan. War damage here has not been severe but, as with other areas, the irrigation systems (mainly karez) have deteriorated as a result of aerial bombardment, mining and lack of maintenance. Consequently, considerable amounts of land have been abandoned and agricultural production has declined. The fighting has also restricted the migration routes of the nomadic herders causing a decline in the numbers and quality of their herds. For many people in Paktika, the export of jalghoza (pine-nuts) and timber was their main source of income in areas where there is little land to cultivate. However, the dislocation of the population and decline of agricultural production during the war has strained the traditional mechanisms that regulate timber harvesting. As a result, many formerly forested areas of Paktika have been denuded.

POLITICAL SITUATION

The mujahideen have controlled the entire province since the end of 1988. Although there has been competition between various commanders of different parties during the war, the strength of local tribal relations has prevented severe conflicts arising between rival resistance groups.

OTHER NGO ACTIVITIES

- ESAR are building a godown in Urgun markaz.
- ISRA is also building a godown in Urgun.
- DACAAR is supporting road repair in the woleswali.
- AEC supports ten schools in Urgun.
- UNO supports 11 schools.

WAZAKHWA (MASHURAY)

Wazakhwa is a woleswali located in the southwest corner of Paktika province and comprises an area of 3550 sq km. To the west is Nawa (Zabul), in the east Gomal and Wol Mamai, in the north Janikhel and the northwest is Dila. This is flat land surrounded by mountains. There has not been much destruction in the district since the beginning of the war.

POPULATION & DISPLACEMENT

Wazakhwa is inhabited by the Sulaiman Khel Ghilzai and also by the Pushtun Taraki. The Dotani, Maryani, Jigyan and Mohammad Khel are some of the Sulaiman Khel sub-tribes which are found in the woleswali. The population of Wazakhwa was estimated in 1979 at more than 14,000 people living in 82 villages. There are no known inhabitants from this woleswali living as refugees in Pakistan. Some of the internal refugees are now reported to be coming down from the hills to reoccupy their villages.

ECONOMY

The majority of Wazakhwa's population are semi-nomadic pastoralists. They farm small plots of land irrigated by karez with wheat, maize and barley during the summer and move to Pakistan for the winter. In the spring, they return once again to their settlements and summer pasture. The migrations of the nomads have been greatly disrupted during the war and this is thought to have reduced the quality and quantity of their herds. Despite the importance of flocks to the community there are reportedly no veterinary services.

BAZAARS

Insufficient information.

STORAGE

No adequate storage facilities reported.

ROADS

From Wazikhwa three main roads lead off to Ghazni: by the Shinkai Kotal and Oban; by Sara Kala; and, by Patanai and Obah. The condition of the first two is reportedly good; the condition of the third is poor.

MINES

Previously, there were government posts at Sphenkey, Gulsha, Khattak Qala and Bach Khan Kalay. These are now abandoned but are still surrounded by anti-personnel mines, especially at Sphenkey, Gulsha and Haji Abdul Wahab Karez.

PEOPLE OF INFLUENCE

The influential people of Wazakhwa are the tribal elders, some of whom have tanzim affiliation:

- Jak Toran Satozai, HIG
- Mowlawi Shah Mahmood, HIIA
- Mowlawi Kamaluddin
- Mullah Asghar, HIIA
- Mullah Abdul Wahid
- Haji Abdul Karim, SYF

MEDICAL RESOURCES

SCA support four Peshawar-trained health workers in Wazakhwa.

OTHER NGO ACTIVITIES

- UNO support 6 schools in the district.
- AEC also support schools in Wazakhwa.

ZELUK (ZIRUK)

Zeluk is an alaqadari in northeast Paktika with an area of 240 sq km. To the west is Neka, in the south Urgun, in the east Sperah (Paktia) and in the north Jadran (Paktia).

POPULATION & DISPLACEMENT

The principal inhabitants of this region are the Pushtun Jadran. In 1979, the population of Zeluk was estimated at 11,000 people living in 17 villages. Under 3000 are thought to be living as refugees in Pakistan. Zeluk is an area to which many refugees from the fighting along the Gardez-Khost road, and subsequent retaliatory offensives further north, have fled to for safety.

ECONOMY

Wheat, corn and alfalfa are single cropped. The land is irrigated through karez, the daming of small creeks and channels, and by springs. This district is very similar to what is found in Neka. There is only a small portion of level land suitable for agriculture, and instead the people depend on animal husbandry and timber harvesting to earn their living.

BAZAARS

No significant commercial activity reported.

STORAGE

No adequate storage facilities reported.

ROADS

-There is a dirt track from Urgun to Zeluk via Zama Khole which is impassable in the spring when the rivers are high.
- A new road has been constructed through the southern part of Zeluk alaqadari to Neka suitable for four-wheel drive vehicles and trucks.
- The road between Mata Khan and Zeluk is impassable.

MINES

Except on the old road between Zeluk and Urgun via Zama Khole, no other locations identified.

PEOPLE OF INFLUENCE

Wakil Hagi Wazir Mohd., a former representative in Parliament, and an elder of the Jadran tribe.

MEDICAL RESOURCES

- AVICEN have trained two vaccinators for this alaqadari.
- Dr. Amin, who is reported to have worked for MSF/France, has a clinic with several beds in Zeluk.
- The mujahideen operated a first-aid post with medicines supplied by SCA and GAF

OTHER NGO ACTIVITIES

None reported.

ANNEXES

ANNEX A

GLOSSARY OF TERMS & ACRONYMS

TERMS

abi	irrigated agricultural land
alaqadari	administrative unit (sub-district)
amir-e-omomi	area-wide commander-in-chief for a specific tanzim
arhad	a deep open surface well
band	mountain pass, dam
dasht	dry plain with limited vegetation
deh	village
jareeb	land measurement equal to 0.2 hectares/0.5 acres
joi	open irrigation channel
karez	network of shallow wells connected by a sub-surface channel
khwar	dry river bed
killay	village
koh	mountain
kot	mountain pass
lalmi	rain-fed agricultural land
markaz	centre, town
rud	river, river basin
seer	weight measurement equal to 7 kgs/15.6 lbs
tanzim	Afghan resistance political party
woleswali	administrative unit (district)
walayat	administrative unit (province)

Afghan Resistance Parties

ANLF	Afghan National Liberation Front/Mojadiddi
HIIA	Harakat-i-Inqilab-i Islami Afghanistan/Nabi Mohammadi
HIG	Hezb-i-Islami/Gulbadin
HIK	Hezb-i-Islami/Khalis
HIM	Harakat-i-Islami/Mohseni
JIA	Jamiat-i-Islami/Rabbani
NIFA	Mahaz-i-Milli/Pir Gilani
SYF	Etihad-i-Islami/Sayyaf

NGOs

AEC	Afghanistan Education Committee (Swedish Committee)
AFRANE	Amitie Franco-Afghan
AHSAO	Afghan Health and Social Assistance Organization
AMA	Afghan Medical Aid
AVICEN	Afghanistan Vaccination and Immunization Centre
ARC	Austrian Relief Committee
ASA	Agricultural Survey of Afghanistan
BIA	Bureau Internationale d'Afghanistan
DACAAR	Danish Committee for Assistance to Afghan Refugees
DCA	Dutch Committee for Afghanistan
ESAR	Engineering Services for Afghan Reconstruction (SNI)
GAC	German Afghanistan Committee
GAF	German-Afghanistan Foundation
HCI	Human Concern International

IAHC	Islamic Aid Health Centre
IMC	International Medical Corps
INDOORS	International Donors Organization for Relief and Services
IRC	International Rescue Committee
ISRA	Islamic Relief Agency
MADERA	Missions d'Aide au Developpement des Economies Rurales en Afghanistan
MCI	Mercy Corps International
MSF	Medecins sans Frontiers
MSH	Management Sciences for Health
MTA	Medical Training for Afghans
NCA	Norwegian Committee for Afghanistan
SCA	Swedish Committee for Afghanistan
SCF/US	Save the Children Federation
SNI	Shelter Now International
UNO	University of Nebraska, Omaha
VITA	Volunteers in Technical Assistance

<u>Other</u>

DCAR	Data Collection for Afghan Repatriation Project (UNHCR)
ICRC	International Committee of the Red Cross
IGA	Interim Goverenment of Afghanistan
Millat	Afghan/Pushtun Nationalist movement
RAFA	Reconstruction Agency for Afghanistan

(HCR/P1)
07/26/89

ANNEX B

POPULATION ESTIMATES FOR PAKTIKA
(Source: GOA Census '78 - '79)

PROVINCE	WOLISWALI	TOTAL	% URBAN	% RURAL	AREA IN SQ. KM.	DENSITY
PAKTIKA						
	BARMAL	20064	0.0%	100.0%	1058	19
	DILA	14491	0.0%	100.0%	1355	11
	GAYAN	20064	0.0%	100.0%	280	72
	GOMAL	4459	0.0%	100.0%	4045	1
	KATAWAZ	41042	0.0%	100.0%	1287	24
	MATA KHAN	14364	0.0%	100.0%	463	31
	NEKA	7182	0.0%	100.0%	180	40
	OMNA	6990	0.0%	100.0%	473	15
	SAR RAWZA	13376	0.0%	100.0%	718	19
	SAROBI	7182	0.0%	100.0%	407	18
	SHARAN	36517	3.8%	96.2%	1031	35
	URGOUN	31808	0.0%	100.0%	568	56
	WALMAMAY	2052	0.0%	100.0%	3311	0
	WAZAKHWA	14491	0.0%	100.0%	3500	4
	ZELOOK	11147	0.0%	100.0%	237	47
	TOTAL: PAKTIKA	245229	0.6%	99.4%	18913	

Hezb-i-Islami/Khalis is the strongest resistance party in Paktika. Mowlawi Jalalludin Haqani, the well known HIK commander in Paktia has limited influence in the north of Paktika because of his position of leadership within the Jadran tribe. Commander Matiullah of the Safir sub-tribe of the Jadrans (Zeluk), is the seniormost HIK commander in the province. A graduate of the Teacher Training Institute in Kabul, Matiullah was made Amir-e-Omumi for Zeluk alaqadari at the beginning of the war and subsequently promoted to Amir-e-Walayati for all of Paktika province. He is a member of the Central Council of HIK and chief of the Military Committee of the party. In 1988, Matiullah was appointed Minister of Agricultural in the first Interim Government under Eng. Ahmad Shah.

Hezb-i-Islami/Gulbadin is represented by Amir Mohd. Khalid Farooqi, a Kharoti, based in Katawaz. He is the brother-in-law of Gulbadin Hekmatyar. He is reportedly influential from Katawaz to Urgun.

Ittihad-i-Islami/Sayaf is represented by Jaglan Abdul Majid Kharoti, a former army officer, and Mowlawi Arsala, a Kharoti who participated in the consultative shura in Rawalpindi. He is said to be powerful and influential in Sarobi (his base), Urgun and neighbouring districts.

Jamiat-i-Islami Afghanistan/Rabbani is represented by Mowlawi Farid who is based in Sharan and influential in many parts of Paktika.

NIFA and and Harakat Mansoor (to a lesser degree) all have commanders in Paktika.

Mowlawi Arsala (SYF), Mowalwi Farid (JIA) and Matiullah (HIK) are regarded as the most powerful commanders in the province.

AREAS OF NGO ACTIVITIES

All Paktika commanders claim to be willing to work with NGOs, but there have been reports of competition for foreign assistance among them. There does not appear to be any regional shura in Paktika. Prior to the government evacuation of Urgun, there existed a shura of commanders to co-ordinate military actions, but this seems to have been disbanded.

At least 13 NGOs are working in 9 of Paktika's 15 districts -- four of them with UNHCR funding -- in the following sectors:

Health (support for medical trainees and vaccinators with salaries, medicine and vaccine; support for health centres): SCA, Freedom Medicine, AVICEN/IRC, MSH, NCA, ICRC.

Rural Works (rehabilitation of roads, storage facilities and other basic infrastructure): ESAR, DACAAR, NCA.

Irrigation Rehabilitation (repair of channels; cleaning of karez): NCA, VITA.

Field Crops (improved seed; fertilizer; pesticides; farm power, e.g., tractors and oxen; tools): GAF, ASA, NCA.

ANNEX C

(HCR/PKD)
08/07/89

LOCATION OF PAKTIKA REFUGEES IN PAKISTAN

DISTRICT	CAMP NAME	NUMBER/FAMILIES
ABBOTTABAD		
	PADHANA 1	30
	PADHANA 2	37
	PADHANA 3	48
	PANIAN 11	12
	DISTRICT TOTAL:	127
BANNU		
	BAKA KHEL	113
	BIZZAN KHEL	156
	GAMBILA	191
	GANDI	38
	KURRAM GHARI	95
	NOWRANG	184
	DISTRICT TOTAL:	777
D.I.KHAN		
	GIRSAL	437
	KURAI	935
	NAIWALLA	15
	PUSHA PUL	561
	RAKHZANDANI	62
	RATA KULACHI	475
	TANK.1	120
	TANK.2	278
	TANK.3	129
	DISTRICT TOTAL:	3012
KOHAT		
	CHICHANA	578
	GHULAM BANDA	14
	JARMA	30
	KAHI 2	50
	DISTRICT TOTAL:	672
KURRAM		
	OLD BAGZAI	109
	DISTRICT TOTAL:	109
LORALAI		
	GHAZGAI WAL	128
	KATWAI 1	117
	KATWAI 2	17
	SPAIDAR 1	139
	SPAIDAR 2	71
	DISTRICT TOTAL:	472
MANSHERA		
	KHAKI	300
	SHAIKHABAD	20
	DISTRICT TOTAL:	320

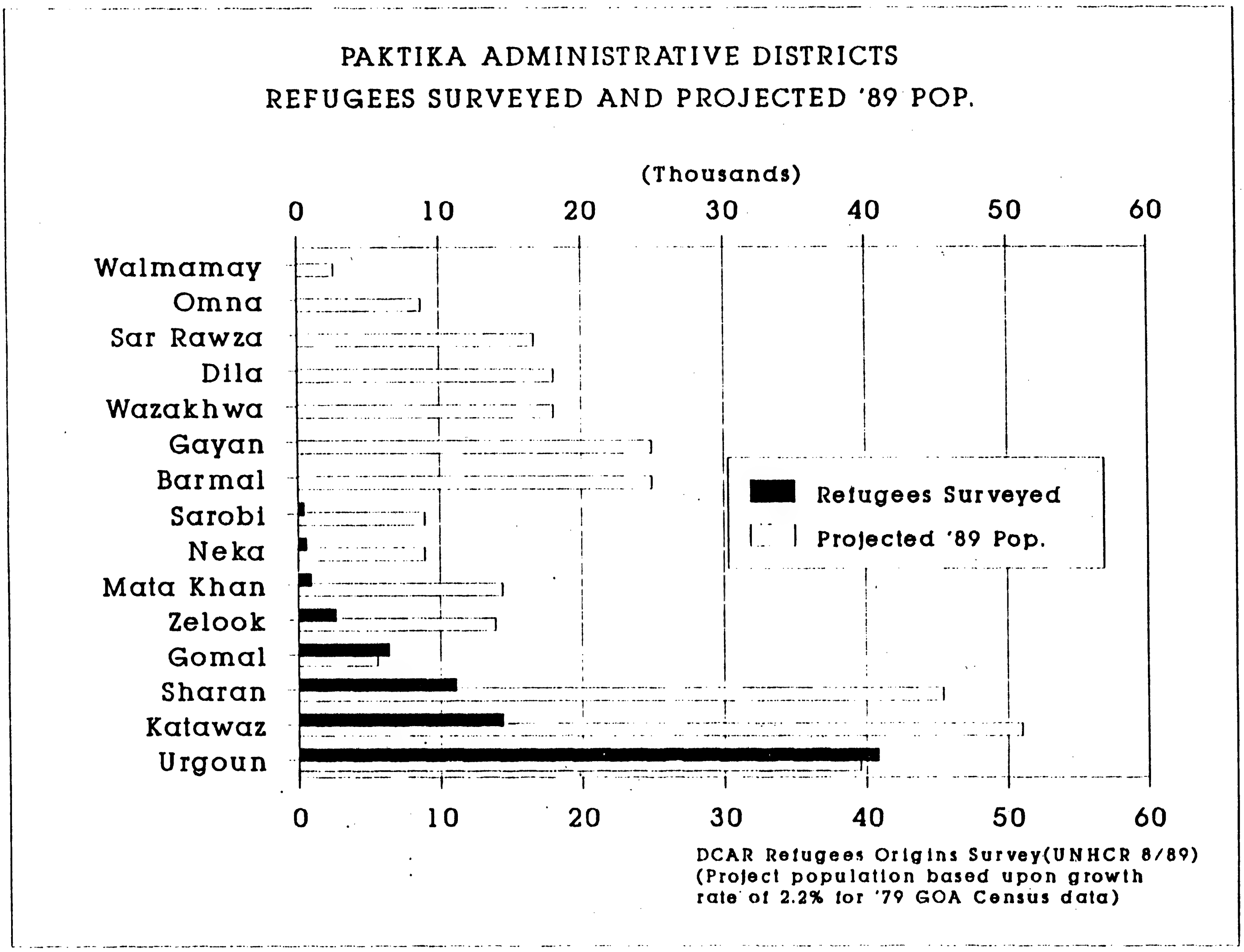
ANNEX C

(HCR/PKD)
08/07/89

LOCATION OF PAKTIKA REFUGEES IN PAKISTAN

DISTRICT	CAMP NAME	NUMBER/FAMILIES
MIANWALI		
	RTV 01	39
	RTV 02	30
	RTV 03	39
	RTV 04	206
	RTV 05	16
	RTV 06	410
	RTV 07	17
	RTV 08	105
	RTV 09	87
	RTV 10	168
	RTV 11	15
	RTV 14	1
	RTV 15	1
	RTV 16	1
	DISTRICT TOTAL:	1135
N.WAZIRISTAN		
	BHATTI	60
	DARPA KHEL	170
	GODIWALA	137
	HAMZONI	20
	MATCHFACTORY	50
	MOHAMMADKHEL	579
	SERAI	402
	DISTRICT TOTAL:	1418
PESH 1		
	MICHINI	5
	DISTRICT TOTAL:	5
S.WAZIRSTAN		
	AZAM WARSAK	824
	BAGHAR	1072
	SARA KANDA	696
	ZARINOOR	1508
	ZARMELANA	306
	DISTRICT TOTAL:	4406
ZHOB		
	MALGAGAI 4	396
	DISTRICT TOTAL:	396
	GRAND TOTAL:	12849

ANNEX D



PAKTIKA ADMINISTRATIVE DISTRICTS
REFUGEES SURVEYED AND PROJECTED '89 POP.
(Thousands)
0 10 20 30 40 50 60
Walmamay
Omna
Sar Rawza
Dila
Wazakhwa
Gayan
Barmal
Sarobi
Neka
Mata Khan
Zelook
Gomal
Sharan
Katawaz
Urgoun
Refugees Surveyed
Projected '89 Pop.
DCAR Refugees Origins Survey(UNHCR 8/89)
(Project population based upon growth
rate of 2.2% for '79 GOA Census data)

Pictorial Printers (Pvt) Ltd., Islamabad
Phones : [illegible]

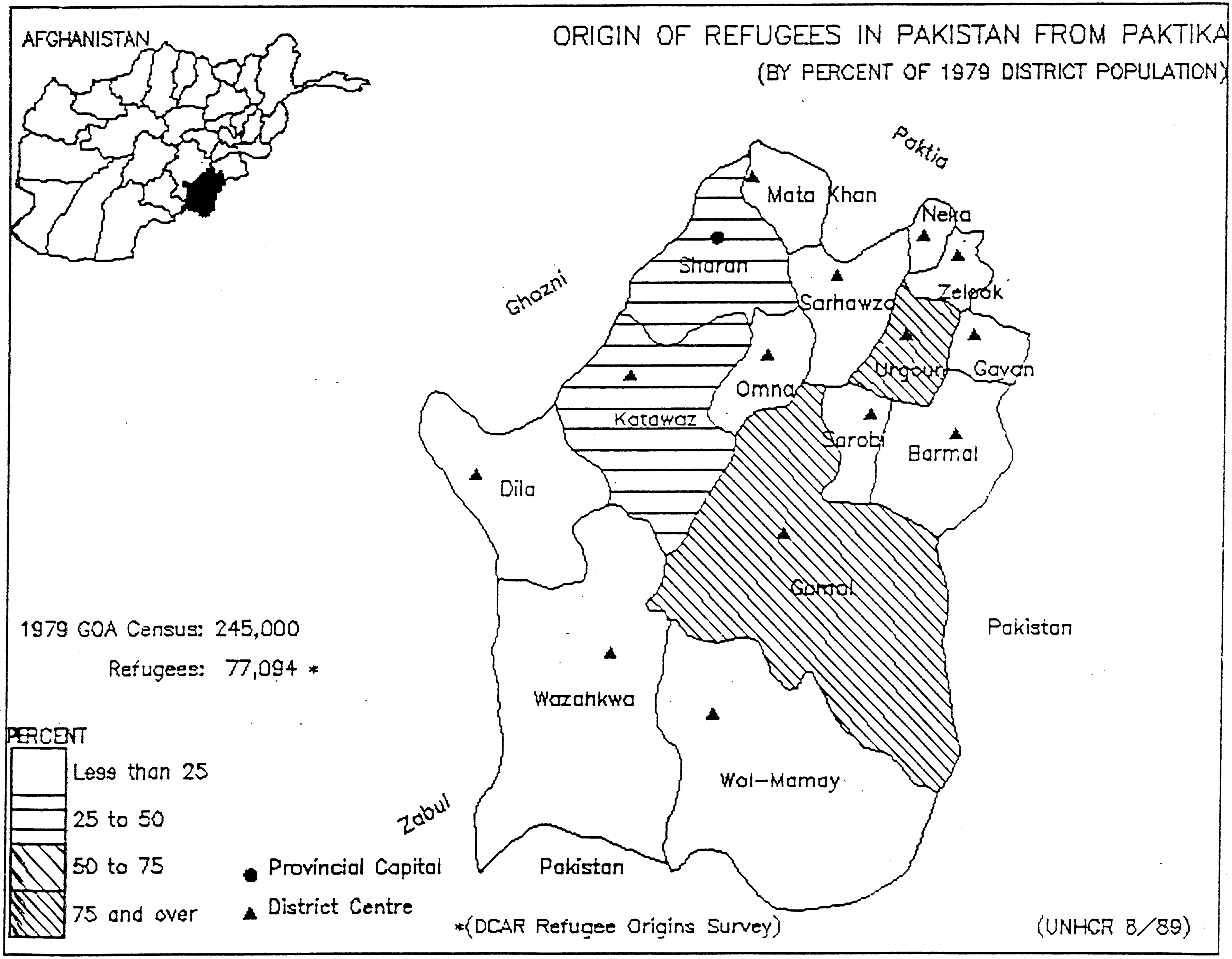
Education: AEC, UNO, Muslim Aid.

(see glossary of acronyms, Annex A)

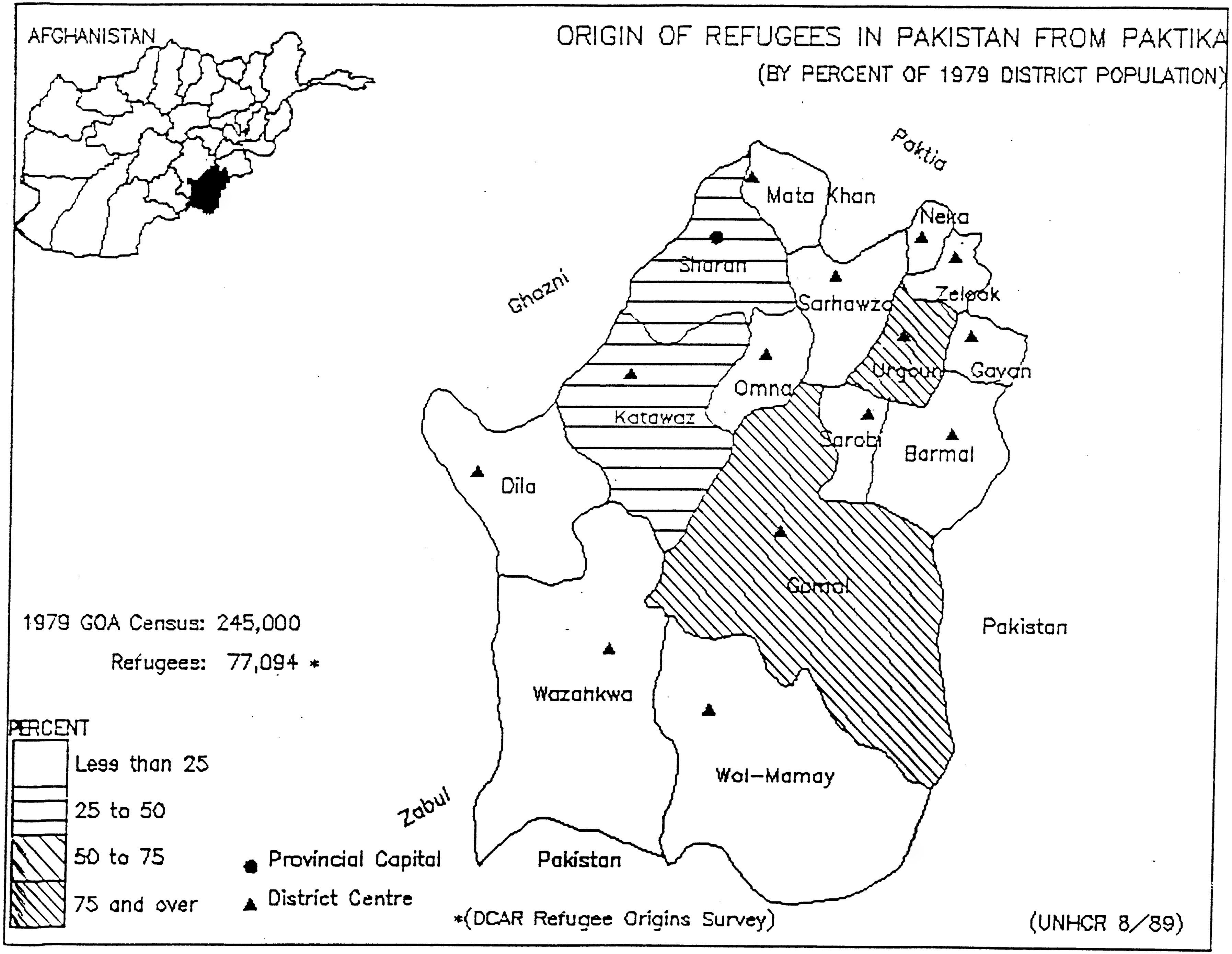
ASSISTANCE PRIORITIES

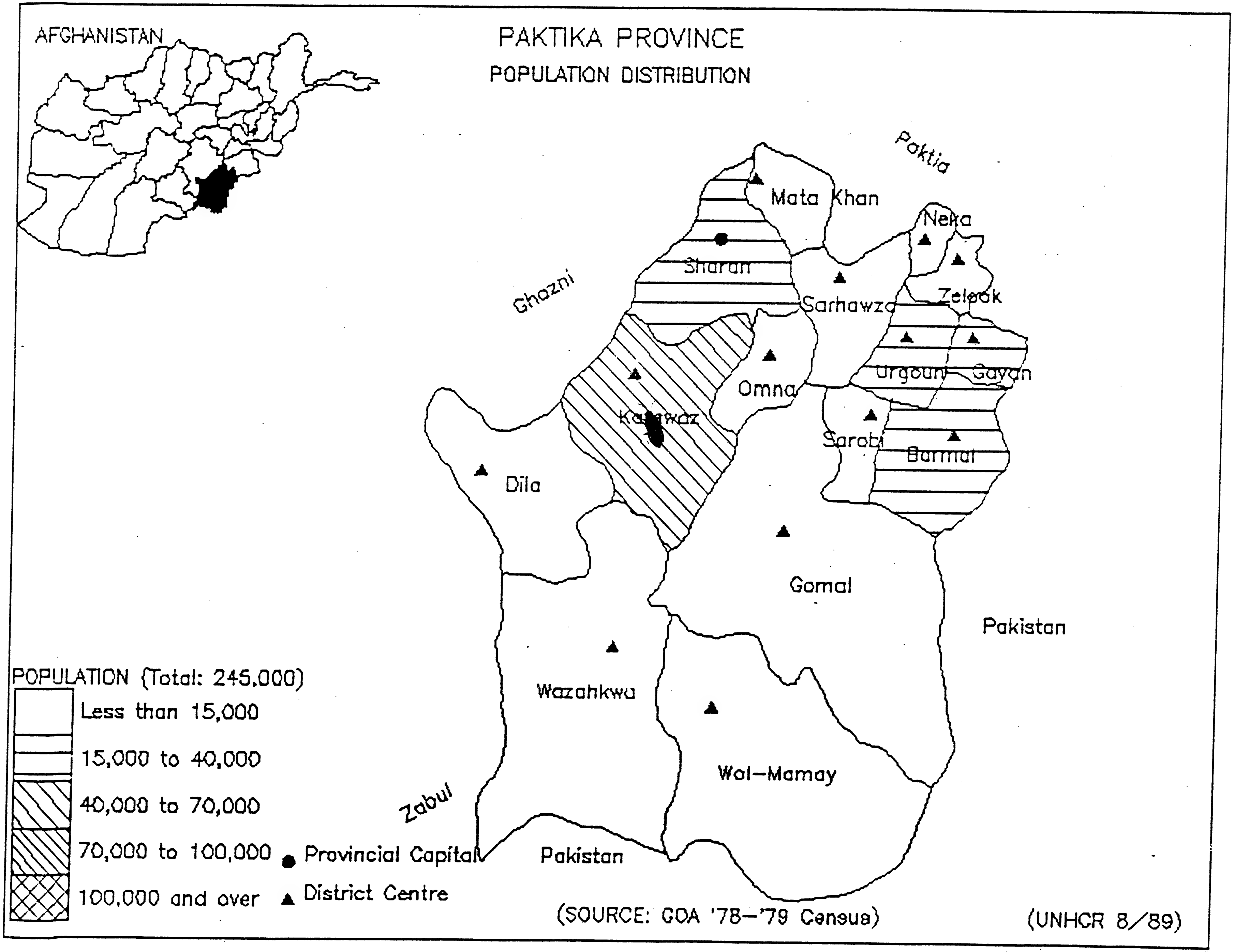
Basic requirements for Paktika Province differ little from those of other provinces in eastern Afghanistan: assistance for the restoration of irrigation works; housing construction materials; agricultural inputs and basic infrastructural rehabilitation; basic health and immunization. Considering the importance of animal husbandry to the economy of the region, veterinary care and stock breeding projects would have great relevance. The devastation of Paktia's forests and ways of preventing returnees from further aggravating the depletion of these resources should be another priority in planning of integrated agricultural assistance projects. Because of Paktika's proximity to Pakistan and the existence of a well established transport network through the province, no special transport assistance will be required for refugees returning from Pakistan. Efforts to improve the physical and security conditions of the province's main roadways would facilitate the movement of goods and people to the interior of the country.

Lessons must be taken from earlier efforts (West German) to undertake community development projects in heavily tribalized areas such as Paktika, or ongoing efforts (USA) in the neighboring tribal areas of Pakistan. No overarching authority (for example, a military shura in Afghanistan or the central government, as in the case of Pakistan) can guarantee the acceptance of assistance projects on the local population. Left to the mercy of the dynamics of tribal society, all but the most small-scale projects are likely to be undermined by tribal jealousies or the ambitions of tribal leaders. Great care and consideration must be exercised in the planning and implementation of projects in these areas.



AFGHANISTAN
ORIGIN OF REFUGEES IN PAKISTAN FROM PAKTIKA
(BY PERCENT OF 1979 DISTRICT POPULATION)
Paktia
Mata Khan
Neka
Sharan
Ghazni
Sarhawza
Zelook
Urgoun
Gayan
Omna
Katawaz
Sarobi
Barmal
Dila
Gomal
Pakistan
1979 GOA Census: 245,000
Refugees: 77,094 *
Wazahkwa
PERCENT
Less than 25
Wol-Mamay
25 to 50
Zabul
50 to 75
Provincial Capital
Pakistan
75 and over
District Centre
*(DCAR Refugee Origins Survey)
(UNHCR 8/89)


ORIGIN OF REFUGEES IN PAKISTAN FROM PAKTIKA
(BY PERCENT OF 1979 DISTRICT POPULATION)
AFGHANISTAN
Paktia
Ghazni
Zabul
Pakistan
Pakistan
Mata Khan
Neka
Sharan
Sarhawza
Zeloak
Urgoun
Gayan
Omna
Katawaz
Sarobi
Barmal
Dila
Gomal
Wazahkwa
Wol-Mamay
1979 GOA Census: 245,000
Refugees: 77,094 *
PERCENT
Less than 25
25 to 50
50 to 75
75 and over
Provincial Capital
District Centre
*(DCAR Refugee Origins Survey)
(UNHCR 8/89)


PAKTIKA PROVINCE
POPULATION DISTRIBUTION
AFGHANISTAN
Paktia
Ghazni
Mata Khan
Sharan
Sarhawza
Zelook
Urgoun
Gayan
Omna
Sarobi
Barmal
Dila
Gomal
Pakistan
Wazahkwa
Wol-Mamay
Zabul
Pakistan
POPULATION (Total: 245,000)
Less than 15,000
15,000 to 40,000
40,000 to 70,000
70,000 to 100,000
100,000 and over
Provincial Capital
District Centre
(SOURCE: GOA '78-'79 Census)
(UNHCR 8/89)

NOTE ON POPULATION STATISTICS USED IN THIS REPORT

The questionable reliability and quality of population data for Afghanistan continues to frustrate assistance planning. A fundamental concern of UNHCR's data gathering efforts has been to pinpoint the origins of the refugee population in order to better calculate regional and sub-regional assistance requirements. Factors such as population density in the provinces and districts of origin, and the likely routes of return to those locations, will dictate the parameters for a distribution network, the location of distribution and health facilities, the positioning of staff and the intensity of monitoring requirements.

Much of the baseline population data used by UNHCR's data gathering project is taken from the First Afghan Population Census undertaken in the summer of 1979. Popular unrest following on the reforms initiated by the Socialist Taraki regime prevented the completion of the census. As a result, less than 60 percent of the country's population was estimated to have been enumerated. The Central Statistics Office subsequently derived estimates from the settled population (i.e., exclusive of the nomadic population) in areas that remained uncovered during enumeration. Although the results of the Census cannot be relied upon for their accuracy, they are the most up-to-date and reliable data available. The Census also provides the only comprehensive population data disaggregated to the district and sub-district levels.

Since the time of the Census, the government has redrawn the boundaries of a number of districts and sub-districts to create new administrative units within the provinces. Population estimates for these new districts and sub-districts are taken from L. Adamec's Gazetteer of Afghanistan and, wherever possible, corroborated by DCAR field staff.

Population data on Afghan refugees settled in Pakistan is largely based on on the refugee camp surveys conducted by DCAR staff from September 1988 to June 1989. This information has been supplemented and corroborated with the assistance of the UNHCR field staff in Pakistan, to which the DCAR project extends grateful acknowledgement. The results of these activities have been presented in a UNHCR report entitled "Report on Refugee Origins: Part 1: Afghan Refugees in Pakistan."

The following maps, taken from this origins report, indicate: 1) the estimated pre-war population density in each district and sub-district of the province for which there is available census data; and 2) the estimated "repatriation density" of each district and sub-district derived from the DCAR camp surveys. The actual population figures used to make these maps are attached as Annex B. The refugee figures may indeed exceed known pre-war population figures for a given district inasmuch as they are derived from interviews with refugee leaders, who are often inclined to exaggerate the strength of their constituencies. The figures, and their graphic representation, are intended as benchmarks for planning purposes only.

BARMAL (BIRMAL)

Barmal is an alaqadari in eastern Paktika with an area of more than 1,000 sq km. To the west is the alaqadari of Sarobi, in the north Urgun and Gayan, in the east is the South Waziristan tribal agency of Pakistan and in the south Gomal. The average elevation of this area is around 1800 metres.

The north of Barmal is divided by the Margha and Mastoi streams which flow northeasterly through valleys bearing their names, cross into Pakistan and unite at Dwa Toi to form the Tochi river. These valleys are well cultivated and populated. At the upper end of the Mastoi valley is the town of Urgun, in the neighbouring district. Cultivation is only to be found in the north of Barmal. To the south is a broad, flat valley with mountain ranges on either side running on a north-south axis. These mountains were originally covered with forests, but the wide plain has little or no water, and most of the area is dasht. The only population settlements are clustered around water sources like the Barmal Khwar, but in general the area is sparsely populated.

The mountain ranges to the east still have forest on their higher slopes. The lower forest is mainly evergreen and oak, the higher is pine with some cedar. The most severe deforestation has taken place on the Pakistan side of the border between Azam Warsak and Angur Ada, where the mountain sides have been nearly stripped bare. Large quantities of timber can be seen stockpiled by the road around Angur Ada, and also at Sarobi and Azam Warsak.

POPULATION & DISPLACEMENT

The population of Barmal was estimated at 20,000 people living in 55 villages in 1979. The inhabitants are mainly Kabul Khel Wazirs and Kharoti Ghilzais. According to DCAR surveys, none of the population of Barmal has settled in the refugee camps of Pakistan.

ECONOMY

Because of Barmal's elevation and limited water supply, agriculture is relatively poor with single crops of wheat, maize, barley, and some rice. Farming serves largely as a supplement to animal husbandry.

BAZAARS

Angur Ada bazaar is on the border with South Waziristan Agency. It is estimated that there are 400-500 shops here, all active. This bazaar was built during the war. All basic and even some luxury goods are available here, coming from Pakistan. Diesel, petrol and kerosene are available in large quantities. There are several hotels and sarai, and dozens of trucks pass through everyday between Pakistan and Afghanistan. Pakistani vehicles bring the goods to Angur Ada and then Afghan vehicles carry them through Afghanistan. There is also a thriving market in dismantled

ordnance and other scrap-metal at Angur Ada, most of which is exported to Pakistan.

Rabat bazaar, situated in the middle of Rabat valley, consists of a few shops and hotels. It is not a major sarai. Diesel and timber are the main commodities.

STORAGE

No adequate storage facilities reported.

ROADS

- The route from Wana garrison in South Waziristan, through Angur Ada and onto Barmal runs through territory disputed by the Wazirs and the Kharotis, with the Wazirs now in control of Angur Ada. This is the major supply route from Pakistan to central Afghanistan, leading to Zarghun Shah, Yahya Khel, Ghazni, Wardak, Maidan, Kabul, Bamyan and the Hazarajat. An estimated 300-500 trucks travel along this route each day in good weather. The trucks carry arms, food, diesel and other supplies from Pakistan.

- The route from Angur Ada to Rabat Bazaar is 36km long and passes through Barmal. This route, which was developed by the mujahideen, often runs through the Rabat River and the depth of the waters can submerge the frame of a vehicle. The surface of the road is quite good in Barmal where a jeep and 4x4 pick-ups can run at 60km/hr and heavy trucks at a speed of 40km/hr. The road becomes increasingly worse when it passes Rabat bazaar. There is only one check post just below the bazaar belonging to Cdr. Malik Agha Mir (NIFA) of eastern Sarobi woleswali.

- The route divides in two, one kilometre to the west of Rabat bazaar: the main route follows the Rabat River but because of the water and the deep ruts made in the soft mud by heavy vehicles during the winter, the road surface is poor. There is no danger from mines along this route. The second route, called the Khangle route, turns in a creek to the left side then goes through the hills and on to Haíbati village in Sarobi, but it is poorly marked and difficult to follow.

- These two roads join again in Sarobi markaz. The distance between Haibati village and Sarobi markaz is 6km. This route goes over a hilly area and crosses a number of washes and small streams.

MINES

There are mines planted around the former government garrission in Barmal markaz. No other locations are known.

PEOPLE OF INFLUENCE

During the war, the Wazirs of Pakistan have made inroads on the border territory of their traditional rivals, the Kharotis and have taken control of the Angur Ada pass and a less well travelled route through the Shkin pass to Baghar in South Waziristan. The emnity between these two tribes is kept in check by the mujahideen so that intertribal skirmishes do not disrupt the flow of supplies into Afghanistan. However, this emnity could affect any relief effort conducted through the region.

- Mowlawai Mir Dad (JIA), a Sulaimanzai commander from Shkin village. He is under the command of Mowlawi Abdul Rahim, of Sarobi alaqadari (see Sarobi profile).
- Mowlawi Arsala, Kharoti (SYF), from Khalq Dad village. He has a markaz at Shkin but is mainly based in Sarobi alaqadari (see Sarobi profile).
- Malik Agha Mir (NIFA), a commander from eastern Sarobi. He is related to the Kharotis.

MEDICAL RESOURCES

None reported.

OTHER NGO ACTIVITIES

UNO reportedly supports two schools in Barmal.

DILA

Dila alaqadari, situated in western Paktika, has an area of 1355 sq km most of which is barren and sparsely cultivated. Dila is at the southern limit of the Katawaz plain, and to the southwest of the markaz lies the huge lake, Ab-i-Istada. To the north is Wazakhwa and to the east is Moqur (Ghazni).

At the beginning of the war, the government established a post to the south/south east of Surkalle lake with underground tank positions. It has been abandoned very recently. There is another old government post near Dila markaz. It has been completely destroyed, along with the village below. It appears that this happened at the very beginning of the war. Apart from this, Dila has been practically untouched by the war.

POPULATION & DISPLACEMENT

The Ghilzai Wazirs predominate in Dila. Their population was estimated at 14,000 in 1979. None of the population has been accounted for in the refugee camps of Pakistan.

ECONOMY

Lack of water and the salinity of the soil limit cultivation in Dila. Houses are clustered together wherever irrigation is feasible but villages are very small and poor. There is a river in Dila which is said to be a tributary of the Ghazni River. At one point, the local people have constructed a dam and divert the reservoir water to irrigate wheat, corn and melon crops. Still, agriculture is only a supplement to the herding of sheep and goats in the area.

BAZAARS

There are approximately 10 shops operating at Dila markaz.

STORAGE

No adequate storage facilities reported.

ROADS

The road linking Moqur in Ghazni Province and Gomal passes through Dila. The road from Dila markaz to Moqur is 50 km long and is mainly a dirt track until it approaches Moqur where it is paved. In good weather, the trip takes three hours. This route passes the shrine of Zyarat Shahid. The eastern route from Dila to Gomal is a dirt track that is not well marked. For this reason, it is difficult to be precise about location of mines although local people reportedly can indicate their whereabouts.

UNHCR BACKGROUND REPORT

PAKTIKA PROVINCE

Prepared by the
Data Collection for Afghan Repatriation Project
1 September 1989

PREFACE

The following report is one in a series of 14 provincial profiles prepared for the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees by the Data Collection for Afghan Repatriation Project. The object of these reports is to provide detailed information on the conditions affecting the repatriation of Afghan refugees in each province so that UNHCR and its implementing partners may be better able to plan and target programmes of relief and rehabilitation assistance. Each of the provinces featured in this series is estimated to have at least 35 percent of its pre-1978 population living as refugees. Together, these 14 provinces -- Baghlan, Farah, Ghazni, Helmand, Herat, Kandahar, Kunar, Laghman, Logar, Nangarhar, Nimroz, Paktia, Paktika and Zabul -- account for ninety percent of the Afghan refugee population settled in Iran and Pakistan.

The Data Collection for Afghan Repatriation Project (DCAR) was funded by UNHCR to develop a database of information on Afghanistan that would serve as a resource for repatriation planning. Project staff based in Peshawar and Quetta have conducted interviews and surveys in refugee camps throughout NWFP, Baluchistan and Punjab provinces in Pakistan to compile data on refugee origins, ethnic and tribal affiliation and likely routes of refugee return to Afghanistan. In addition, the project field staff undertake frequent missions into Afghanistan to gather specific information on road conditions, the availability of storage facilities, transportation and fuel, the level of destruction of housing, irrigation systems and farmland, the location of landmines and the political and military situation at the district (woleswali) and sub-district (alaqadari) levels in those provinces of priority concern to UNHCR.

Where possible, written sources, including the Afghanistan gazetteers edited by L. Adamec, NGO field reports and bilateral/multilateral agency reports have been consulted to corroborate field data. Project staff also interview Afghan resistance leaders, journalists and other non-Afghan visitors to the region as sources for information and corroboration of information gathered in the field. All survey data and other related information has been stored in the DCAR database. Only summary information has been included in this report. More specific information can be obtained from the DCAR main office at the UNHCR Sub-Office Peshawar.

Where locations are known, the activities of different NGOs have also been identified. This information has been provided in order to indicate the types of resources existing in a particular area, and to identify sources of potentially far more detailed information than this report can offer. However, NGO activities in Afghanistan are rapidly evolving. A more current profile of activities can be obtained from the offices of the two NGO coordinating committees, ACBAR in Peshawar and SWABAC in Quetta. Both maintain a database on the geographic coverage and sectoral activities of their member agencies.

These provincial reports do not claim to be exhaustive. Rather, they are intended as a reference for the targeting of assistance programmes, and as guides for those agencies that require general background information on target areas, including the major obstacles that may be encountered to the planning and implementation of assistance projects in those areas. Much of the most timely and relevant information is derived from eyewitness accounts, which often defy the most painstaking efforts to render them consistent with existing knowledge. Names of villages, evaluation of road conditions and travel distances, and the identification of influential individuals take on a remarkably subjective character when more than one Afghan source is consulted. These reports, then, cannot substitute for first-hand investigation of local conditions.

Ten years of war and social upheaval have led to the dramatic deterioration of individual security and physical subsistence throughout Afghanistan. The rapidly evolving political conditions that will affect the return of refugee and internally displaced populations, as well as the effectiveness of international assistance efforts, are beyond the capacity of even the most experienced observers to predict. These background reports represent UNHCR's attempt to develop a coherent response to these potentially chaotic conditions.



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MAPS

Note: Because their population has been relatively unaffected by the fighting between the government and the resistance, neither the alaqadaris of Wol Mamay or Omna are considered in this report